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PENCE HERALDS 'PROGRESS IN IRAQ' ON HOUSE FLOOR

Washington, Jun 2, 2004 - (Photo: Pence speaks on the House Floor)

Washington, D.C.- Congressman Mike Pence said today during a speech on the House floor that yesterday's naming of top Iraqi governing officials marks significant progress for Iraq. His comments follow:

"Amidst the violence and struggle that always attends the transition between tyranny and liberty, we have progress in Iraq.

"Yesterday a Sunni Muslim, Ghazi Yawar, was named president, who, along with Shiite Prime Minister Ayad Allawi will lead a free and democratic Iraq.

"Mr. Yawar memorably pledged, in this country that was torn by tyranny for three decades, to establish 'a democratic and federal system under which people enjoy free citizenship in a state of laws and freedom.'

"A quagmire, hardly. Difficult, yes.

"But an ethnically diverse government coming together under the rule of law and democracy is genuine progress in Iraq and worthy of celebrating in this Congress."

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